

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OIC-02

OMB-01 /114 W

----- 015808

P 022202Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5649

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0372

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNDP, EAID

SUBJ: UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 21ST SESSION: PLENARY DISCUSSION,  
AGENDA ITEM 15: DATE AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 22ND  
SESSION -- DECISION ON CUBAN INVITATION POSTPONED

REFS: (A) STATE 5590; (B) STATE 10291; (C) USUN 319

1. SUMMARY: LAST-MINUTE EFFORTS PROVED SUCCESSFUL IN  
PERSUADING CUBANS TO BACK OFF FROM PRESSING FINAL DECISION  
ON 22ND GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC) MEETING IN HAVANA IN JUNE.  
ON JANUARY 30 COUNCIL INSTEAD DECIDED BY CONSENSUS TO  
"TAKE NOTE" OF CUBAN INVITATION TO HOLD EITHER THE 22ND  
OR THE 23RD (JANUARY 1977) GC IN HAVANA. CONSULTATIONS  
AMONG MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE TO CONTINUE IN ORDER TO  
REACH AGREEMENT ON THE CHOICE OF SITE FOR THE JUNE MEETING.  
IT IS NOW PROBABLE THAT WE CAN SUCCESSFULLY AVOID HAVANA  
AS A SITE FOR THE JUNE MEETING ALTHOUGH WE WILL BE UNDER  
SOME PRESSURE TO AGREE TO GOING THERE IN 1977. THE COUNCIL'S  
ACTION IN POSTPONING A DECISION IS THE RESULT OF INTENSE  
BEHIND THE SCENES EFFORTS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE  
GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION. WHILE SEVERAL WESTERN  
DELEGATIONS WERE QUIETLY HELPFUL, THE MAIN CREDIT  
CLEARLY GOES TO THE NEW UNDP ADMINISTRATOR BRADFORD  
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MORSE WHO HANDLED THE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH THE CUBAN

PERM REP. END SUMMARY.

2. THIS AGENDA ITEM WAS INTRODUCED TO THE PLENARY FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 30, BY COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT HEDEMANN (NORWAY), PRESIDENT ALARCON (CUBA) ABSENTING HIMSELF FROM THE CHAMBER DURING THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION. HEDEMANN ANNOUNCED THAT PLENARY MUST DECIDE ON DATE AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR 22ND SESSION (DP/GC/XXI/CRP 10) AND ON DRAFT DECISION (CDP/GC/XXI/18) CIRCULATED JUST BEFORE THE SESSION.

3. LATTER DOCUMENT (TRANSMITTED AT END OF THIS MESSAGE) WAS THE PROPOSED DECISION ON VENUE FOR THE 22ND (AND 23RD) GC'S PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT FOLLOWING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CUBANS AND OTHERS. CUBAN SPOKESMAN BALLESTER GAVE A LONG RECITATION OF THE HISTORY AND THE LEGAL JUSTIFICATION FOR THE CUBAN INVITATION FOR THE 22ND SESSION, TOGETHER WITH THE STRONG COMMITMENT OF CUBA TO UNDP AND DETAILS OF ITS RECORD OF COOPERATION WITH THE ORGANIZATION. THE DELEGATE THEN REFERRED TO THE COMPLICATIONS RESULTING FROM MANY OTHER UN MEETINGS BEING HELD ABROAD IN 1976 AND IN PARTICULAR THE JULY ECOSOC SESSION IN ABIDJAN. SHE REITERATED CUBA'S OFFER OF HOSPITALITY TO THE COUNCIL, NOTED THAT THE REGULATIONS ALLOW FOR FLEXIBILITY AND STATED THAT HER DELEGATION WAS IN A POSITION TO TRANSFER ITS INVITATION TO THE 23RD SESSION (JANUARY 1977) SHOULD THE COUNCIL SO DESIRE. SHE STATED THAT THE DRAFT DECISION ON POSTPONEMENT BEFORE THE COUNCIL WAS SATISFACTORY TO HER DELEGATION.

4. NEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENTATION THE CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE MENTIONED THAT HER GOVERNMENT (A) WOULD BE WILLING TO DEFRAY ALL ADDITIONAL COSTS INVOLVED IN HOLDING A MEETING IN HAVANA; (B) WOULD SIGN A HEADQUARTER'S AGREEMENT IN FULFILLMENT OF UN REGULATIONS; AND (C) WOULD ARRANGE FOR VISITS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND SITES IN KEEPING WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNCIL.

5. THE CUBAN STATEMENT WAS FOLLOWED BY BRIEF INTERVENTIONS  
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BY ELEVEN DELEGATIONS FAVORING ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION AND PRAISING CUBAN "FLEXIBILITY" IN AGREEING TO PUT OFF DECISION. DISCUSSION WAS MAINLY REMARKABLE IN TERMS OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH CHOSE NOT TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON THIS HIGHLY CHARGED ISSUE. NO WESTERN COUNTRY SPOKE TO THE ISSUE THOUGH MOST IF NOT ALL COULD HAVE AGREED TO HAVANA, NOR DID ANY ARAB COUNTRIES SPEAK. WHILE SEVERAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SPOKE, THE USSR REMAINED SILENT -- APPARENTLY

OUT OF FEAR OF PROVOKING NEGATIVE STATEMENTS BY THE U.S. AND/OR CHINA. WE HAD ALREADY DECIDED NOT TO SPEAK SINCE TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION WAS SO CLEARLY IN LINE WITH U.S. OBJECTIVES.

6. IN VIEW PROLIFERATION OF STATEMENTS AND STILL FEARING POSSIBILITY OF ACCIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT INTERVENED TO STATE THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE AGREEMENT ON THE DRAFT DECISION. DECISION WAS THEN ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS, THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION EXCEPT FOR PRO FORMA CUBAN THANKS TO THE COUNCIL.

7. COMMENT. THE OUTCOME IS BETTER THAN SEEMED POSSIBLE AT OUTSET OF THIS SESSION. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS, THE DELEGATION WORKED QUIETLY BUT INTENSIVELY BEHIND THE SCENES WITH MANY DELEGATIONS AND WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATION. WE WERE CAREFUL HOWEVER NOT TO MOUNT AN OPEN CAMPAIGN OR TO MAKE ANY "DEAL" COMMITTING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO HOLD ANY FUTURE MEETING IN CUBA IN RETURN FOR PUTTING OFF THE JUNE QUESTION. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE UK AND THE FRG, TOLD US THEY HAD MENTIONED DIRECTLY TO CUBAN PERM REP ALARCON THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE US CONGRESSIONAL REACTION SHOULD THE COUNCIL DECIDE TO HAVE THE JUNE MEETING IN HAVANA. THE MAIN CREDIT FOR OUR ABILITY TO SLIDE BY THIS ISSUE CLEARLY GOES TO THE NEW UNDP ADMINISTRATOR BRADFORD MORSE, HOWEVER. MORSE CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH US AND SUCCEEDED IN CONVINCING ALARCON THAT FOR PRACTICAL AS WELL AS POLITICAL REASONS THE ISSUE SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN AND NOT ALLOWED TO DISTURB THE PRESENT SESSION. MORSE'S EFFORTS, AND THOSE OF THE U.S. DELEGATION, WERE HELPED BY EVIDENT CUBAN NERVOUSNESS THAT A NUMBER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MIGHT HAVE BLAMED THE CUBANS IF (A) THE ISSUE OF THE

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VENUE FOR THE 22ND SESSION HAD BECOME OPENLY POLITICIZED, AND (B) THERE WERE AN ADVERSE REACTION IN THE US WITH A CONSEQUENT THREAT TO THE U.S. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR UNDP. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH DEPARTMENT IN DUE COURSE ABOUT HOW TO HANDLE THE FOLLOW-UP CONSULTATIONS THAT MUST TAKE PLACE TO PERMIT A FINAL DECISION ON THE SITE FOR THE JUNE SESSION.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

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OMB-01 /114 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5650

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 0372

8. TEXT OF DECISION FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

DATE AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION  
OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

DRAFT DECISION

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL,

TAKES NOTE OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CON-  
FERENCES (A/10032 AND CORR.1), APPROVED BY RESOLUTION 3491  
(XXX) BY WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECIDED THAT THE  
TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL WOULD BE HELD  
IN JUNE 1976 AT GENEVA "OR IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY  
FROM WHICH AN INVITATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED";

TAKES NOTE OF THE INVITATION EXTENDED BY THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO HOLD THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION  
OF THE COUNCIL AT HAVANA AND OF THE SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION  
IT DEMONSTRATED IN STATING ITS WILLINGNESS TO BE HOST TO THE  
COUNCIL IN JUNE 1976 OR JANUARY 1977;

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TAKES NOTE OF THE STATEMENTS EXPRESSING GRATITUDE MADE IN THE  
COUNCIL AND IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

TAKES NOTE ALSO OF THE FACT THAT DURING THE PERIOD MAY-JULY  
SEVERAL MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS ORGANS, INCLUDING  
A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL BEGINNING  
ON 1 JULY AT ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST, WILL BE HELD;

CONSIDERS IT DESIRABLE TO CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS ON THE  
SUBJECT AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, BEARING IN  
MIND THE NEED TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF DELEGATIONS  
IN THE AFOREMENTIONED MEETINGS;

DECIDES, IN CONSEQUENCE, TO AWAIT THE RESULT OF THOSE  
CONSULTATIONS AND TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE VENUE FOR  
THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION DURING THE INTERVAL BETWEEN  
THE TWENTY-FIRST AND TWENTY-SECOND SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL.  
UNQUOTE.  
MOYNIHAN

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## Message Attributes

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